

The True Art of Angling:

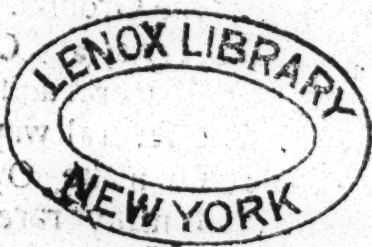
O R,

The Best and Speediest way of
Taking all sorts of Fresh-
Water Fish with the Worm,
Fly, Paste, and other Baits,
in their proper Seasons; how
to know the Haunts of Fish,
and Angle for them in all
Waters and Weathers, at
the Top, Middle, and Bottom,
Baiting of the Ground, and
Night-Baits, Oyls, and Oye-
ments, Baits Natural and Ar-
tificial: The several ways of
Angling; To make Oyl of
Asper, and many rare Se-
crets never before made pub-
lick; containing the whole
Body of Angling, and My-
stery of a Compleat Angler.

By J. S. *A Brother of the Angle.*

The Second Edetion.

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at the Golden Ring, and John
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tain. 1697. Price bound 6d.



TO THE
LOVERS
OF
Angling.

THough you see this
Book but small, yet
think not the matter is so
it contains, for upon my
Word, Brother Angler,
you will find in it more
than you are aware of, or
could reasonably expect.

To the Lovers

It is stored with such variety of choice Instructions, that I am bold to say, there are none of what Volume soever, that in a direct and easie Method, can shew you any thing like it. It comprehends whatever they pretend to, and many Secrets that never before appeared in Print; nor is any thing omitted, that I could upon mature deliberation, reasonably conceive might tend to pleasure and profit: by well observing the Rules I have laid down, you need not be endowed with so large a stock of Patience, as some tell you
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an Angler ought to be possessed withal, but soon be furnished with a Dish of Fish to your Mind: you may change your Recreation, and not make this irksome to you, by a tedious poring on the Banks as many do, and for all that, return fretting at their slender success.

But by the way let me tell you, Angling of all other Recreations, is the most Innocent, Contemplative, and least Chargeable, it affords Advantage without cost, and Pleasure without toil or sweating, it much contributes to a

A 4 health-

To the Lovers, &c.

healthful Constitution of
Body, by the pleasant Airs
that breathe from whole-
some Waters, to refresh
and enliven Nature; and
indeed has been held in high
esteem, by Wise Men of all
Ages; and therefore I re-
commend it to you, as the
best winder-off of your
leisure hours, wishing you
Moderation in it, and
Good Success. Vale.

Instructions

Instructions for rightly preparing Angling Tackle; as Rods, Lines, Hooks, Floats, Plummets, and other matters required to accomplish the Angler, &c.

IF we consider Recreations aright, they are intended to refresh the Mind, and unbend our Cares after Toil, Labour or Study, and therefore ought not to be pursued with too much fatigue, lest they appear more like a business, than pleasure, and so in the end become pall'd and tiresome; but when leisure hours will admit, they are very conveni-

ent to sweeten the Cares of Life. Among these, Angling is held by all the Ingenious, the most diverting for those that are contemplative, and though it require much Ingenuity, yet is it performed with little Labour; yet as in all other curious matters, Rules are necessary to be observed in it, and to that end I shall, as Experience, the best Master teaches, proceed Gradually, to lay down such, as perhaps the greatest part of Mankind are Ignorant of, and therefore according to the method I have chosen, it will be necessary first to speak of Tackle, without the Knowledge of which, the Angler must be like one that undertakes Business, and wants Tools to accomplish it.

As for your Tops, Hesse or Yew Switches, gathered about
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the middle of *December*, when
most free from Sap, are ac-
counted very good, through the
two following, or preceeding
Months, may reasonably serve,
run them over a gentle heat
to make them tough; let the
Stocks and Tops be taper
smooth and strait, the pieces
of each Rod suitable in an ex-
act symmetry, free from knots
or else they will be deficient in
Casting, and never Strike well
nor be truly pliable, but at a
knot be apt to break and spoil
your sport: To keep them in
good order, bind them close
to a strait Pole, and so let them
continue long, that they may
not warp, fasten a Loop of Silk
or Horse-hair, at the end of it
with Shoemakers Thread, that
the Line may have play on it
and though many use Silk Lines
yet I prefer the Horse Hair as
the

the best; and in twisting or breading, observe an exact evenness, for one Hair being shorter then the rest in a Link, the whole stress will lye on that, and it breaking, renders the rest much the weaker, and often a good Fish is lost for want of this observance; make your knots sure, that they slip not; as for the colour of your Hair, it being free from Nits or Goutiness, which some call Botches, the pale, waterish colour is the best to deceive in a Clear Stream; but in Wheyish or Muddy Water, you may chuse indifferently a Line, for the Ground-Angle need not be so strong as that you intend for your Rod at the Artificial Fly, abating in the latter a Hair from top to bottom, in every Link from one or two, to six or eight, or more.

As

As for the Hook, it must be long in the Shank, and of a compass somewhat inclining to roundness, for if the Shank be strait, the Point will stand outward, fasten the Hair on the inside of the Shank, to preserve it from fretting, whether you Angle at top or bottom; proportion your Hook for strength and compass, to the number of hairs you Angle with next it, neither use great Hooks to small Baits, not great Baits to little ones; *Barble* and *Chub* must have large Hooks, *Carps*, *Eels*, *Tench*, *Pearch*, *Breams*, those of a much lesser size, and Experience teaches, *Trouts* in clear Water, *Grayling*, *Smelts*, *Roaches*, *Salmon-Smelts*, *Dace*, *Ruff* and *Gudgeons* are soonest taken with small Hooks, though many use great ones for the *Trout*, especially in Muddy Water,

yet

yet the *Salmon* must be Angled for with a Hook, according to his strength; Hooks for *Dubflies* should be generally small, and so for *Cod-baits*, but larger for *Worms*, yet such as some use for the latter, do not generally take in *Clear Water*: When you whip your Hook, which is stiled *Arming*, do it with *Silk* lightly rubbed with *Shoemakers Wax*, twisting it round on the lower part of the *Line*, almost to the bent of the Hook on the inside, having first smoothed the *Shank* of the Hook with a *Whetstone*; and for *Worms* let it be red coloured *Silk*, but for *Cod-bait*, *Pasts*, &c. white.

Floats should be of *Cork* for *River Fishing*, but for *Ponds*, *Meers*, and other standing *Waters*, *Quill* and *Pens* will do very well, and in very slow *Rivers*, especially when you are to
Angle

Angle near the Top with tender Baits or Pastes; as for your Cork, let it be the finest, free from holes or flaws, bore it through with a small hot Iron, thrust in a quill sizeable, shapt with a Knife to the likeness of a Pyramid, Egg, or Pear, a proportionable bigness, and with a Pumice-stone finely smooth it; run your Line through the Quill, and wedge it in with the uppermost hard part of the Quill, the smaller end of the Cork being towards the Hook, and the bigger towards the Rod, let the Cork be so poised with Lead on the Line, that the Quill standing directly upright, the least Bite or Nibble may sink the Cork.

To Lead your Line, do it with a Shot cloven, and then closed exactly on it; put not above

two of these on any Line, and that an Inch and a half, or two Inches distance from each other, and the lowermost plumb, seven or eight Inches from the Hook, but for a running Line, either in Clear or Muddy Water, nine or ten Inches, and if you in a River find a Sandy bottom, it being full of Wood with few Stones, shape your Lead a Diamond-fashion, or to that of a Barley Corn or Oval, bring the ends very close and smooth to the Line, yet make it black, for the brightness will scare the Fish.

It is very necessary to have a landing Net and Hook, or you may lose many a large Fish, by breaking line or hold, before you can Land him. The Net you may fasten to the end of a long manageable Pole: As for the Hook it must be a large one
with

with a Screw, to screw into a Socket at the end of a Pole, and when your Fish is entangled, clap it into the Mouth of it, and draw it to Land; but this latter is chiefly for *Barbel*, *Salmon*, and other strong Fish.

As for your Pannier, let it be of light Osier twigs, neatly Woven and Worked up, and to be the more compleatly prepared on all occasions; have in a readiness divers sorts of Hooks, Lines, Links ready twisted, Hair and Silk of several colours, small strong Thread, Lead Plummets, Shoemakers Wax, and Floats of divers sizes, Line-Cases, Whet-stone, Pen-knife, Worm bags, Boxes, Baits, Scissars. And thus having pretty well accoutred my Angler with Tackle, it will next be necessary to know what Baits he must use

use, for on it mainly depends
success or frustration.

*Baits bred on Trees, Herbs,
Plants, Worms, their
season, and what Fish
take them, when and
how, &c.*

BAits for the sundry kinds
of Fish are numerous, and
many of them must be consider-
ed in their proper Season, or
they are of no value; as for
Earth-worms, they are accoun-
ted a general Bait, they and
Gentles are always in Season,
Earth-Bobs only from *Martin-*
mas, till the latter end of *April*,
Cownturd Bobs from thence till
Michaelmas, Oak-worms, Worms
bred of Trees, Plants and Herbs,
Palmers,

Palmer's, or Wool-beds, Flies, Caterpillars, Cod-baits, &c. all the Summer; and here it is requisite to note, that when one sort of Bait comes in Season, the other are not useless. If you are to Angle in Clear Water at the ground, it will be necessary to have with you Cod-baits, Worms, Gentles and Bobs, to try which will best take, but in Muddy Water for *Trouts*, with the running Line; you are required for better sport, to have Tag-tails, Gilt-tails, Brandings, Meadow-worms, some covered in Moss and Water, others directed with a Riddle, and some again with heavy Earth; for almost at the same time they will take them, some one way done, and some another, as Experience has often demonstrated.

But

But to come nearer, and shew you what your Baits are how shaped, and to be chosen.

1. The Garden-worm, Lob worm, or Treachet and Dew worm, are one and the same though in divers places their names thus alter, and this Worm, one of the greatest size is an Excellent Bait for *Chevin Salmon, Barbel* or *Eel*, though the smaller of the same kind, are not much affected with them. That with a broad Tail, and round Head, and streak down the Back is the best, they are found in the latter end of the Summer in the Evening, in Gardens Church-yards, and may be driven out of the Earth, with the Juice of Walnut-tree Leaves and Water poured on their holes.

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2. Marsh or Meadow-worms are found in Marshy ground, or in banks of Rivers in Fertile Mould, being somewhat blewish, and being well scoured it will be tough and lively, and is a very good Bait, especially in March, April and September, for *Pearch, Flounder, Bream, Smelt, Gudgeon, Salmon, Trout, Grayling*, though many, and not without success, use from *Candlemas* to *Michaelmas*, and in Moss and Water it may be kept fifteen days before use.

3. Brandlings, Red-worms, and Gilt-tails, are found in old Dunghills, rotten Earth, Cow-dung, Hogs-dung, or Tanners Bark when it is used and cast by. The Brandling and Gilt-tail, are especially good for taking *Pearch, Tench, Bream, Salmon, Gudgeons, Smelts*, they are taken by *Trout and Grayling*,

Grayling in Muddy or Clear Water, and the Red-worms well scoured, are taken by *Tench*, *Pearch* and *Bream*, and best in Muddy Water.

4. The Worm called Tag-tail, is of a flesh colour, having at his Tail a yellow Tag near half an Inch long, found in Meadows after a shower of Rain, or in Chalky ground in *March* and *April*, if the Weather be temperate; this is held an extraordinary good Bait for a *Trout* in cloudy Weather, and a little scouring will serve it

5. The Palmer-fly, Palmer-worm, Wool-bed and Cankers, are accounted one and the same, being bred on Herbs, Trees, and Plants, not being properly a Caterpillar, yet the shape of one, being in the outward parts Rough and Wooley, being excellent Baits for the *Chub*,
Grayling,

ayling, Trout, Dace, or Roach. The Palmer-fly and May-fly are held the foundation of Fly-angling, and have usually good success.

6. The Oak-worm, Caterpillar, Cabbage-worm, Crabtree-worm, or Jack, Colewort-worm, or Grub, may be long kept with the Leaves of those Trees and Plants, that breed them, in boxes with holes for Air, or Withey Bark. They take Chub, Roach, Dace and Trout, the Oak-worm being preferable to any bred on Trees or Plants, being the best taken on the top of the Water, though you may go as deep as you will with them; to get these, search the Colewort or Cabbage Leaves, eat the Oak, Crabtree, or Hawthorn; some of them are hard and tough, others smooth and soft, some horned-tailed, others

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others have them on their heads, some smooth, others hairy.

7. Bobs, of these there are two sorts, they are found in Sandy or Mellow ground, especially after Plowing: The one is one is called the Earth Bob, White Grub, or White Bait, being much bigger than a Gentle, having a Red Head, the Body soft, and full of white Guts, the other is lesser, and somewhat blewish, found many times in digging on Heaths; they are excellent Baits till after *Mid-April* to the first of *November*, to take *Tench*, *Bream*, *Trow*, *Chub*, *Roach*, *Smelt*, *Salmon*, *Dace* and *Carp*, they must be kept in an Earthen Vessel, with the Earth you find them in, covered very close to keep out the Cold and Wind, some boil them about two minutes in Milk

Milk before they use them, which makes them tougher and whiter, others dip them in Honey or Gum-Ivy for *Carp*, *Bream*, and both ways prove successful.

8. Gentles or Maggots, may be kept with Flesh, and scoured well with Wheat-Bran, they are easie to be had, or bred, by Putrefaction. These are sometimes added to a Worm on the Hook, sometimes to a Dub-
fly, and so take *Salmon-Smelts*, but oftner used by themselves two or three on a Hook; the day before you Angle, put them into a Box with Gum-Ivy, and it will prove successful to your sport; they are good Baits for *Tench*, *Barbel*, *Bream*, *Bleak*, *Gudgeon*, *Trout*, *Dace*, *Chub*, *Carp*.

9. Flag-worms, or Dock-worms are the same, found among Flags, in old Pits or
Ponds,

Ponds, viz. The small Fibres of the Flag-roots, by opening little husks, it is Pale, Yellow, or White, longer and slenderer than a Gentle, and these may be kept in Bran, and are good Baits for *Bream, Tench, Roach, Carp, Dace, Bleak* and *Pearch*: when you Fish with it for the *Grayling*, use the smallest Line, and the Float, and Fish nine or ten Inches from the ground.

10. The Bark-worm, or Ash-Grub, are all one, being very full and white, bent round from the Tail to the Head, the Head being red, and the parts very tender, resembling a young Dorr or Humble-Bee, and may be used all the year, but particularly from *Michaelmas* to the middle of *May* or *June*, and except the Ely and Cod-bait, is the best for *Grayling, Dace, Roach* and *Chub*, it is found be-

under

under the Bark of an Oak, Ash, Alder, or Beech; especially when fell'd, and they have lain about a year, or in the hollow of these Trees when standing, where doated or rotted; it is a very tender Bait, and best on a bristled Hook, by running the Hook in at the Head, and up the Belly, till it stays on the bristle, and no part of the Hooks point appears out of it; they are kept well in Wheat-Bran, and take the *Grayling* with the smallest Line: Angle with the Float, keeping the Bait seven or eight Inches from the bottom; but if you Fish with it for *Roach*, *Chub*, or *Dace*, use Indifferent Tackle.

II. There is a Bob found under a Cow-turd, called the Cow-turd Bob, from the beginning of May to *Michaelmas*, some call it a Clap Bait, this is like a Gentle, but bigger; you may

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keep it sometimes in Moss, but the best is to keep it in Earth, dug up under the place where you find it; it is a very good Bait for *Trout*; if you Angle with it on a bristled Hook, on the top of the Water, and in the Water it is taken by *Chub*, *Carp*, *Bream*, *Tench*, *Dace* and *Roach*.

12. The Cod-bait, Cad-bait, Cadisworm, or Caseworm, are one and the same Bait, though of three sorts, The one is found under Stones that lie loose, and hollow in small Brooks, shallow Rivers, or very fine Gravel, in a Case or Husk, and when fit for purpose, they are yellow; they are bigger than a Gentle, having a Black or Blewish Head; another sort is found in Pits, Ponds, flow-running Rivers, Ditches, in Cases or Husks of Rushes, Water-weeds,

weeds, Straw, &c. and are by some called Ruff-coats, or Straw-worms; these are accounted Principal Baits for *Bleak, Salmon-Smelts, Tench, Bream, Chub, Trout, Grayling, Dace*. The next is a green sort, found in Pits, Ponds or Ditches, in March, coming before the yellow ones, for they are not in season till the end of *April*, and in *July* are out of season; the third sort is proper in *August*, being smaller than the other. These must be kept tender in Woollen bags, when you carry them for use, so as to keep them long alive, put in a green Withey Bark, taken off and hollowed like a Trunk, lay it in the Dew a-nights to moisten it.

*Natural Flies for Baits,
their Seasons, and where
to be found, for what
Fish they are proper, &c.*

1. **T**HE Ant-flies are found in their Hills, about the end of *June, July, August*, and most part of *September*, with the Earth you take with them, they may be kept in Glass Bottles; two or three of these fixed on the small Hook, are certain Baits for *Chub, Roach and Dace*, if you Angle under Water not above six Inches from the bottom.

2. The brood of Humble Bees, Hornets and Wasps, are good Baits, dry them over a Fire, or in an Oven, so not being over done, they will last long,

long, and sit handsomely on the Hook, to take *Chub*, *Eels*, *Bream*, *Flounders*, *Roach* or *Dace*, some boil them, but then they will not keep long; *Hornets*, *Wasps*, and *Humble-Bees*, may be used alive, when their *Wings* are a little grown, and their *Legs* short, especially for the *Chub*, as also the *Black-Bee* breeding in *Clay Walls*.

3. The *Fern-Fly* or *Fern-Bob*, is found among *Fern* from *May-day* to the end of *August*, it is thick and short of *Body*, has two pair of *Wings*, the uppermost reddish and hard, which may be taken off, the last ten days of *May* the *Trout* will take it every day, and the *Chub* refuses it no part of the *Summer*.

4. The *Stone fly* and *Green drake*. The first of these is found under hollow *Stones* at *Ri*

ver sides: The Body of it is pretty thick, and almost as broad at the Tail as in the middle, it is of a curious brown colour, streaked a little with yellow on the Back, but much more on the Belly; he uses much the Water, and seldom flies though he has large Wings that double on his Back, he comes in about *April*, and continues till about the end of *June*, and is a very killing Fly of *Roach*, *Dace* and *Bleak*, and the *Green-Drake* has his Wings standing high like a *Butter-fly*, and his motion in flying the same, the Body is in some of a Paler, in others of a darker Yellow, ribbed with Rows of Green, long and slender, his Tail turns up to his Back, having three long whisks at the end of it, he comes in about the middle of *May*, and continues till *Midsummer*,

of Angling. 45
summer, and is found by Stoney Rivers, with this Bait for *Flounders, Dace, Bleak, Roach and Pearch.*

5. The great Moth that has a considerable big Head with whitish Wings, is to be found in Summer Evenings in Gardens, on Trees, and Plants; it speedily takes *Chub* if you dabble with it.

6. The Hawthorn-fly is black, found frequently on Hawthorn-trees, when the Leaves are put out, the best use this can be put to, is to Dabb in a River for *Troul.*

7. The Ash-fly, Wood Cock-fly or Oak-fly is the same, under different names, and holds good from the beginning of *May* to the end of *August*, it's of brownish colour, and usually found in the Body of an Oak, or Ash, standing with his Head down-

wards towards the Root of the Tree, and is a very good Bait for a Trout. And to make speedy work, put it longways on the Hook, and at the point a Cod-bait, and let them sink six Inches or a Foot into the Water, raise it gently, and having a short dibbing Line, you need not fear Trouts in clear Water, and instead of a Cod-bait, if you have it not, you may use an Oak-worm, or Green-Grub, you may dub this, or make it Artificially with Isabella, coloured Mohair, and bright brown Bears-hair, wrapped on yellow Silk. These being the Principal Flies, used in Angling, I now come to mixed Baits of another Nature.

*Miscellany of Baits very
Taking, and much in
use.*

1. **S**almon Spawn boiled, and
salted on the Hook, is a
very good Bait for *Chub*, and in
some Rivers for *Trout*, it being
advantageous to the Angler,
especially in Winter and Spring,
if he keeps it salted; especially in
places where *Salmon* used to
Spawn, for thither the Fish ga-
ther to expect it,

2. Grasshoppers the latter
end of *June*, all *July*, and *August*,
if their Legs and outward Wings
be taken off, especially for
Roach, *Trout* and *Grayling*, and
here you may put a slender
plate of Lead on the Shank of
your Hook, slenderest at the
bent, then draw your Grasshop-
per

per over it, after put a lesser Grasshopper, or Cod-bait at the point, and keep it moving, lifting up and sinking again, a *Chub* will also take the Bait freely, and so will a *Trout* if you dib with it.

3. The Water-Cricket, Water-Louse or Creeper is but one, these take *Trout* in *March* and *April*, and sometimes in *May*, if you Angle at the River: It is to be Angled within clear Water, within a Foot of the bottom, some let it drag on the ground. This Creeper is bred in Stoney Rivers, and held to turn into a Stone-fly about the middle of *May*, that Fly not being any where seen before.

Lamery Pride, or Seaven, is a very good Bait for *Chub* and *Eels*, Night or Day, this is no other than little live things like small *Eels*, no thicker than a Straw,

Straw, and are to be found in Sandy Muddy heaps, near to the Shoar in Rivers.

Snails, the Black and White are good Bairs for *Chub*, very early in the Morning, *Trout* and *Eels* take them on Night Hooks, but the Bellies of the black may be slit, so that the white may appear, some dib for *Chub* with House-Crickets.

For *Chub*, *Barbel*, *Roach* and *Dace* you may Angle with Cheese, or Oat-Cake, especially at the Ledger Bait, the Cheese you may wrap up two or three days in a wet Linnen Cloth, or moisten it over with Honey and Water.

Black-berries, Mulberries, Cherries, or Rasberries take the *Chub* in Ponds or Rivers, Lip-berries, or Aron-berries, being when ripe, of a transparent red, found in dry Ditches,
or

or dry Banks, fit for use in *July*
and *August*, two of these on a
Hook will take a *Roach*, and four
a *Chub*.

As for a *Pike* he is a greedy
Devourer, and therefore mostly
delights in Fish, Frogs, &c.
therefore your Baits for him must
be small *Dace*, *Minnows*, *Roach*,
Salmon-Smelt, *Gudgeon*, *Bleak*,
Millers-thumb, small *Pearch* with
the back Fins cut off, also *Trout*
and *Eels* well scowred in *Wheat*
Bran, to take away the *Slime*;
and indeed most sort of small
Fish he takes, and how you are
to manage them on your Hook,
I shall tell you when I come to
treat of the taking him in the
River of Thames. *Periwinckle*,
a kind of *Water-Snail*, is much
used for *Roach*, being taken
whole out of its Shell; *Shrimps*
taken out of their Husk or Shell,
may be used as a Bait for *Pike* or
Chub.

Chub. The *Whita-blite* with much
Seed; by some called *All-seed*, is
a proper Bait for Fish.

*Pastes proper for the
Angler.*

Pastes are of several kinds,
though tending to one and
the same end, for a *Chub* or *Che-*
vin, make a Paste of the fattest
Old Cheese, the Suet of a Mut-
ton Kidney, a little strong Run-
ner, mix them equally and fine-
ly together, then put as much
Pouder of Turmerick, as will
give them a fine Yellow Co-
lour.

For *Roach* and *Dace*, Grate
fine Bread into a little fair Wa-
ter, wherein Gum-Ivy has been
soaked. For the *Barbel* in *Au-*
gust, make a Paste of New
Cheese

52 For the first
Cheese and Mutton Suet. For
Roach or Dace, you may put a
little Butter to your Crumb
bait, and Colour it with Saffron.
For Carp or Tench, mix crumbs
of Bread with Honey, though
for a Carp I reckon this the
surest.

Take Bean Flower, or for
want of it Wheat-flower, the
inside of the Leg of a young
Rabbit, Catlin, or Whelp, white
Bees-wax, and Sheeps Suet, pro-
portionable, beat them in a Mor-
ter till well incorporated, then
moisten the Mass with clarified
Honey, and work it up into
little Balls, before a gentle
Fire.

The Chub in Winter takes a
Paste made of strong Cheshire
Cheese, beaten with Butter
and Saffron till it become a Le-
mon colour.

Stoned

Stoned Cherries, fine grated Manchet, Sheeps Blood and Saffron make a good Paste for Roach, Dace, Bleak, Chub, Trout, Pearch, and for the Chub only put a little Rusty Bacon in it.

Another excellent Paste is made of the fattest Old Cheese, Mutton Kidney-Suet, strong Rennet, Anniseed Water, Wheat Flower, and the dripping of Rusty Bacon held against the Fire.

What is to be observed in Angling with Pastes.

YOU must Proportion the quantity of your Paste you put on your Hook, to the smallness or largeness of the Fish you Angle for, as in other Arts.

2. You

2. You may try Oils upon any of these Pastes, and as you see your success, so continue the one, or the other : And the best for this purpose are Oil of Polypody of the Oak, Oil of Petre, Oil of Ivy, and as properly Gum of Ivy, and Assafetida.

3. To strengthen any Paste and so prevent its washing off the Hook, it will not be amiss to beat a small quantity of fine Flax cut short, Cotton Wool or fine Lint among them, which will prove very binding ; that you would have keep long put a little White Bees-wax to them, and anoint them with clarified Honey, the latter you may wipe off, when you have occasion.

4. Paste, or tender Bait must not be Angled with, in rapid Streams, but on a slow

Hook in Pits, Ponds, Meers, or slow Running Rivers; your Eye in this sort of Angling must be quick, your Rod somewhat stiff, and a nimble Hand to pull up, or else the Bait and Fish will quickly bid you farewell. This is better done with a Quill-float than a Cork, which sooner shews the Nibble or Bite, and if you then be not very quick, your Labour is lost, and with these Passes, success is usually had for Bream, Bleak, Chub, Roach, Dace, Carp, Tench, Barbel.

*Oils and Ointments useful
in Angling.*

TAKE Oil of Ivy-berries, anoint the inside of an Oak-Box with it, and put three or four Worms, or other live Baits

Baits into the Box, shutting it close, but keep them not there too long, lest the strength of the Oil kill them, but take them out and put in more, and so they being scented with the Oil, will allure the Fish the more readily to take them. This may be done in the same manner for want of Oil, with Gum-Ivy, which is a Tear that flows out of the Ivy Stalks, when slit, or wounded by piercing.

Oil of Spike and dissolved Gum-Ivy, are held to be much attracting, the Bait being anointed with them.

Oil of Polypodiy, of the Oak Venice Turpentine, and new Honey is very good, if eight Inches of the Line next the Hook be anointed with it; but there must be two or three Hairs, for it will not well stick

to a single one, however do not
log your Line with it.

Chimical Oil of Lavender, or
if you want of it, Oil of Spike six
drops, three Drams of Assafoe-
tida, Venice Turpentine, one
Dram, Camphire one Dram,
make these into an Ointment,
and anoint your Line, as the for-
mer, this in Clear Water won-
derfully takes *Gudgeons*.

Man's Fat, and the Fat of the
high-bone of a Heron, makes
an Ointment that rarely fails,
and is esteemed by those that
have tried it, the best of any,
being a new Experiment.

But let me commend to you
above others this, take the Oils

Chammomile, Lavender,
Anniseed, each a quarter of an
ounce, Man's Fat, Heron's
Grease, and Cats Grease, and
the best Assafoetida, each two
Drams, two Scruples of Cum-
min

min seed, finely beaten to Powder, *Venice Turpentine*, Camphir and Galbanum, of each a Dram, add two Grains of Civet, and make them into an Unguent; this must be kept close in a glazed Earthen Pot, or it loses much of its vertue, anoint your Line with it as before, and your expectation will be strangely answered.

Oil of Asper so much noised about, and said to be Extracted from a Fowl called the *Osprey*, now found to be a mixture of the Oil of Spike, Lavender, and refined Oil of Turpentine, which however has a considerable effect in still, or slow moving Waters; and observe in this case your Line must be anointed every second drawing up, or the strength of the scent being worn off, you may expect your sport to cease.

I might now speak something of Artificial Flies, and other Artificial Baits, but not to keep the Angler too long from the Water, I shall have occasion elsewhere to treat of them.

Fishes Haunts proper to be known

If you are not certain of any Waters to Fish in, your business is to try the most likely and promising, viz.

Where Trees fallen, Wood, Rushes, Weeds, or Rubbish are in Rivers, or likely large Ponds, there are store of Fish promised, for thither they resort for warmth and shelter, but it is very troublesome Angling there.

The

The next are Weirs, Weir
Pools, Mill Streams, Flood-gates
Piles, Posts, Pillars of Bridges
Cataracts and Water-falls, Ed-
dies, Whirling Pits, the side of
a Stream in the Summer espe-
cially, for then they love to
bask and lye shallow, unless the
Weather be excessive hot; tho
I may herein except *Carp*, *Eel*
and *Tench*, in the Winter, find for
the generality the deep as the
warmest, in a gentle Ebb and
Flow, by the beating of the
Waters, at any turning or op-
posing Bank, there is good bi-
tting, so that strait Rivers are
not so advantagious to Angl-
in, as those that are Winding
or Crooked, having Eddies, Pits
and Pools in them, occasioned
by the Waters beating on the
Points and Doublings, and thence
being forced back, and into
those Pits and Creeks, the Fish

will get in some considerable numbers many times, where the Water is narrow, try both sides; but to come somewhat nearer.

The *Salmon* is found in large swift Rivers, that Ebb and Flow, Gravelly and Craggy. The *Trout* mostly in purling Brooks and Rivers that are somewhat swift, and have Sandy bottoms. The *Carp* and *Tench* love Still Waters, or such as gently move, where Weeds or Roots of Trees are near to shelter them on occasion. *Eels* generally covet Muddy Rivers, Ponds, or Slimy sand, especially those of the larger size. The *Pike*, *Bream* and *Chub*, are mostly found in sandy or Clay Rivers, Brooks or Ponds, wherein Bushes, Bulrushes, or Flags grow. The *Barbel*, *Roach*, *Dace* and *Ruff*, for the most are found in Sandy or Gravelly deep Rivers, cover-

C

ing

ting to be under the shade of Trees. The *umber* is likeliest to be found in Marley or Clayey Streams, running very swift. The *Gudgeon* likes best a Sandy or Gravelly bottom; yet for all this, a trial of divers Waters will not be amiss, where you may suspect any Fish are likely to breed; for Experiencedce in this Art is the surest Instructor.

Times proper above others to Angle in, according to the Water, Weather, &c.

1. **I**N the hottest Months, take your opportunity when it is Cloudy, and the Water is moved by gentle gales.

2. When the Floods have carried away the filth, sudden showers incumber the Waters with

with, and the Rivers, &c. retain their usual bounds, looking of a palish colour.

3. When a violent shower has Muddied or Troubled the Water, and after that the stream runs swift, for then they usually seek for Creeks, and Shelter, and in the little Rivulets running into the great one.

4. If you Fish for *Carp* or *Tench*, do it early in the Morning, viz. a little before Sun-rise, till eight, and from four in the Afternoon, till Sun-set, when the days are of a convenient length, *June*, *July*, and *August*, but in *March*, the beginning of *April*, and end of *September*, they refuse not to bite in the warmth of the day, the Wind being still.

5. If you Angle for the *Salmon*, the best time is from three in the Afternoon till Sun set,

and in the Morning as before, his proper Months are *May, June, July* and *August*. The *Barbel* bites best in *May, June, July* and the beginning of *August*, from five to eleven in the Morning. The *Pearch* and *Ruff* all day in very Cool and Cloudy Weather. The *Bream* bites from Sun-rise, till nine or ten in the Morning, in Muddy Water, especially when the Wind blows hard, for the most part keeping in the middle of the River or Pond in *May, June, July, or August*.

6. The *Pike* Bites in *July, August, September* and *October*, about three in the Afternoon in gentle Water, and a clear Gale. In Winter he Bites all the Day long, and in *April, May*, and the beginning of *June*, early in the Morning, and late in the Evening. As for *Roach* and *Dace*, they Bite all the Day long, if the

the Weather be not in the extremities of Heat or Cold, on the top of the Water. The *Gudgeon* Bites best in *April*, and till he has Spawned in *May*, and if the Weather be Cool, till Wasp time, and at the end of the year all day long in a gentle stream; observe when you Angle for him, to stir and rake the ground, and he will Bite the better. As for the *Flounder* though he is found only in Ebbing and Flowing Rivers, that have Communication with the Sea, he Bites freely all day in *April*, *May*, *June* and *July*, in a swift stream, he will Bite in the Still, but not near so freely.

Ground Baits to gather and feed the Fish, that you may better, and readily know, where to find them, &c.

THE Ground Baits, or for Baiting the Ground, are Barly or Wheat soft Boiled, which for prevention of scattering, you may mix with some pleasant fresh Earth, Ale-grains, Wheat Bran steeped in sheeps-blood, Blood clotted, dried and cut in small pieces, Periwinkles bruised in their Shells, black and white Snails, Worms cut in sunder, and made up in little Balls of Earth. The Guts of Fowl, the small Guts or Livers cut small, Old Cheese and Oat-Cakes, bruised together, Malt grossly ground, these especially gather *Tench, Dace, Carp, Chub, Roach, Bream and Barbel,* and the

the more you feed them, they will be the surer to keep to that place, and be the fatter to reward your pains when taken, and these throw in a little above the place you Angle at, if it be a moving Water, for before they ground, the stream will carry them some distance from the place you throw at.

These are especially good when you Angle with the Cod-bait, Gentle, Wasp, or Paste, for it will make them take your Bait more eagerly, and with less suspicion. And this directs you to the *Pike* or *Pearch*, for if those Fish you Angle for be not there, and neither others have circumvented you, nor the Season improper, then are these two devourers of Fish, lurking thereabout, and the rest dare not approach for fear of being made a Prey, therefore use

suitable Tackle and Baits to take them, and then other Fish will boldly approach.

When you Angle in Clear Water, keep out of sight as much as may be, sheltered behind some Bush or Tree, or by standing as far off as possible, keeping your Eye only on the surface of the Water where your Float is, and to effect this the better, your Rod must be proportionable in length, to answer the place you Fish at, and especially at the ground, and a long Rod and Line at Artificial Flies are very necessary; an Angler must add Silence to his Patience, and move his Body as little as possible may be, for the Fish are very quick-sighted, and naturally fearful, particularly the *Chub*, *Carp* and *Trout*.

When

When in a Clear Water you Angle at the Ground, or with a Natural Fly Dibble, always do it going up the River, but in Muddy Water, or when you do it with a Dib-fly use the contrary ; if you have hooked a Fish, and suspect the strength of your Line or Rod, let him Play and Tire within the Water, before you offer to bring him near the top, be sure to keep the Rod bent, lest running to the end of the Line, he break his hold, or the Hook, and if he be tired, and have in a manner done flustering, bring him towards the top, and if there be occasion, use your Landing Net or Hook; and take this for a general rule in hooking all strong Fish.

- *How to take the Salmon and Salmon-Smelt, by Angling, &c.*

THE *Salmon* though not found in many Rivers in *England*, is of Principal note for River Fish, though it as well belongs to the Sea. The chief Rivers noted for them are the *Thames*, *Severn*, *Trent*, *Lon* at *Lancaster*, and about *Cockersand-Abby* at *Workinton* in *Cumberland*, *Bywell* in *Northumberland*, *Durham*, *Newcastle on Tyne*, *Dee* in *Cheshire*, and some Rivers in *Wales*, as *Usk*, *Wye* and *Tivy*; he commonly is found in the Water deep, and about the middle.

His best Biting is Nine in the Forenoon, and Three in the Afternoon in Clear Water, especially when the Wind blows against the stream, but not very roughly: Then take the Baits direct-

directed, and the strongest Tackle, for when he is struck, he plunges and leaps, though not usually does he endeavour to go to the end of the Line.

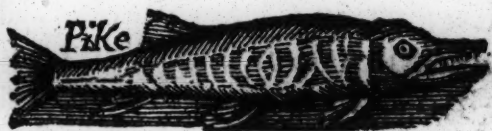
The younger sort of these are so tender mouthed, that unless you fasten ~~two~~ Hooks almost in a quarter of a Circle asunder, they usually break hold; for the great *Salmon*, the principal Bait is well scowered Dew-worms, for the *Salmon-Smelts* the Brandling, Gilt-tail, Meadow-worm, &c. and for Flies he takes them Natural or Artificial, and if you use these, a Cod-bait or Gentle at the top of the Hook is effectual, this with the Dub-fly takes *Salmon-Smelts* beyond Expectation, but for a greater *Salmon*, if your Fly be Artificial, make it very large with six Wings one behind another, that by that & the different colours, he

52 *The true Art*

he may suppose it, as indeed it will appear in the Water, a Cluster of Flies. He is taken at the ground with a running Line or Float, and sometimes he Bites lower than Mid-water at ground-baits; he is taken with Oak-worms, Dub-flies, Cod-baits, Clap-baits, and the larger sort sometimes take the Minow and Loach, and for these you may Angle with a Wyer Ring on the top of the Rod, letting the Line run through it to a great length, and when he's hooked, and is spent with plunging, fix your Land-hook in his Mouth, that is screwed to the end of a Pole, as directed, to Land him.

Several

*Several ways to take the Pike, and
where to find his Haunts, &c.*



TO find this Greedy Fish,
you must Cast in Sandy,
Chalkey, or Clayey places,
somewhat near the Banks, for
he coveting solitude, often lurks
in holes to surprize other Fish,
as they fearlessly swim by, some-
times he shelters among Bul-
rushes, Water-Docks, Weeds,
or Bushes, and then he Bites
about the middle of the River,
or Pond, at Mid-water, and for
him you must keep your Bait in
a gentle motion, and at all times
to be above a foot from the
Ground; he rarely Bites in the
Night,

Night, for then he is for the most part gone to rest in his retirement. In *April, May, June,* and the beginning of *July*, he does it most freely Morning and Evening in Clear Water, and a gentle gale in Still Water, or a moderately moving one, and in the rest of *July, August, September* and *October*, his best Biting time is about Three in the Afternoon, in Water as before in Winter Months, if the Weather be pleasing, and the Water Clear, he will not refuse to Bite at any time, though the most certain time is about Three of the Clock in the Afternoon, if particularly in a gloomy, Cloudy day, but the Water Muddied with Rains, there is no certainty of him, his beloved Baits are *Gudgeon, Roach, Dace, Minnows, Salmon Smelts* no bigger than *Gudgeons*, very small *Pikes*; in the

the Winter Months a piece of an *Eel*, Fat Bacon, a young *Trout* or *Pearch*, if the Pricks be cut off the back, &c. but all his Baits must be very fresh, and a live one tempts him much the sooner, which may be put on by drawing the Line between the Skin and the Ribs of the Fish, and so on the Hook, fastening it in the Gills, and this you may use in Trowling, but here have your Tackle very strong, with Wyre about a foot from your Hook, that next to it Silk, & the rest of the Line strong spun Flax, come as little as you can near the Weeds, lest they spoil your Bait before the *Pike* comes at it, fasten the Tail of the Bait to the Joint of the Wyre, and having fixed your Tackle, that the Line may Run and Play; let so much Lead be at the Hook, as may carry the Fish's Head down-

downwards, as if after Playing on the top, she was going to the bottom, and when you have sunk it so, that it is at a convenient depth for the *Pike*, slack your Line, and give it scope, that he may run to his hold, and there pouch or swallow it, which you may know by the moving of the Line in the Water, then with a smart Jerk, Hook him; some use no Rod with this, but Lead and Float, holding the Line in their Hands on Links, and indeed there are several methods taken, though all to the same purpose, wherefore for brevities sake I omit them.

Angling for him at the Snap, is to give him leave to run a little, and then strike, which must be done the contrary way to that which he moveth, therefore a double spring-hook is
useful

useful in this way of Angling especially, for a great Pike usually will hold the Bait so fast in his Teeth, that you may fail to pull it out of his Mouth, and likewise strike him, when if he holds the spring hook never so fast, the Wyre will draw through the Bait, and so the spring opening you will frequently Hook him on the outside of his Mouth, though Trowling is surer than this, and more practicable, yet this is best used in *March*, when the Pike Bites ill, then upon Spawning they are Sick and lose their Stomachs, Bait this as the former, and he may be taken this way, when he is so.

Other

Other Brief Rules for Pike Angling.

1. **W**HEN the Pike has taken your Bait, observe how he moves, if slowly, give him time and you will rarely miss him; let not your Bait fall in one and the same place above once or twice, for if he take it not, then he is farther off.

2. If you find after he has taken the Bait, he lies still, as sometimes he will, move your Hand gently, to get notice which way his Head lies, lest in striking you happen to pull the Bait out of his Mouth, if that cannot be discerned, strike directly upward: At the Snap have strong Tackle, and give two lusty Jerks quickly one after another, fastening a Swivel at the end of your Line, which

which must be used at Trowl and Snap, and your Armed Wyre must be hooked on it.

3. For the Snap, have a hollow piece of Lead, that it may pass over the Wyre, and end of the Hook, which you draw within the Fishes Gills or Mouth, that as directed it may keep the Head downwards, and at either of these Baitings, if you cut away one of the Fins of the Bait close at the Gills, also behind the vent, and one on the contrary side, it will play the better, and seem more lively.

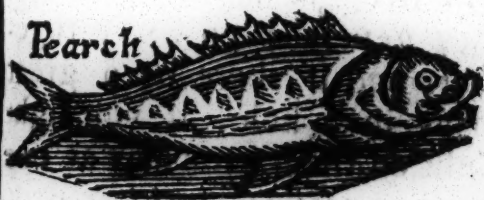
4. Be sure to raise your Hand in Casting, when the Bait is about to fall into the Water, so that by dashing it may not fright him away, and when it is sunk a little, draw it near the top towards you a little, and so let it fall again; and if your Wyre Hook is joined with

a Steel Ring, the Bait will play better, and sink more direct; for Snap, March is the chief Month, February, April, May, September and October for the Trowl, and though a large Bait invites him most, yet a lesser takes him more surely, yet let your Bait be sutable to your Hook; and this way with a Minnow, Loach or small Gudgeon, you may take Pearch, and if possible always Trowl in Clear Water in a Windy Day, and then a Gudgeon will do well for the Pike, but if a Dark, Cloudy Day, Roach, Dace or Bleak, are to be preferred.

To snare a Pike, when you perceive him raise, and staying near the Surface of the Water, fasten about a yard and a half of strong Pack-thread to a Pole, and at the end of it, a running Noose of small Wyre, softly putting

ing it over his Head, with a quick Jerk throw him to Land ; this is often done to Young pikes, but the Older are more wary, though sometimes caught by this means, especially in Ponds, as also when they come out of Rivers, and go a Frogging in Ditches, in May, June and July.

To find and Angle for Pearch.



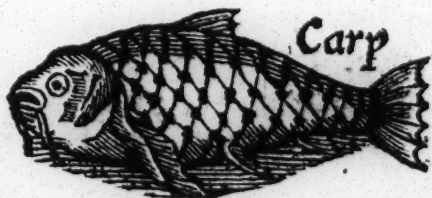
THis Fish delights in a good Stream, of a moderate depth, abiding usually close by a hollow Bank, Pebbly, Gravelly bottomed, with Green Weeds

Weeds growing in it, being commonly a River Fish, he Bites little in Winter, but in the middle of the Day, yet in Summer all Day if the Weather be Gool and Cloudy, and the Water shaken with the Wind, but more freely from Seven till Ten in the Morning, and from Two in the Afternoon till Six, and sometimes till Sun set, if in the middle of Summer, you must look to him when he is struck, for he's a very strong Fish, and will struggle hard, and long; they generally go many together, and if there be a great many in a hole, if you light right on them, you may at one standing, catch the greater part, if you give them time to Bite; for if you are too hasty in striking, you may chance to miss your Aim; he takes almost all manner of Worms, as Dew-worms,

worms, Red-worms, Meadow-worms, Cod-baits, also the Minnow, Loach, small Frog, Wasps, Hornets, and Humble-Bees.

He is best taken with a Float, resting the Bait about six Inches from the ground, and sometimes he is taken about mid-water, some use a Ledger Bait on the ground, but the first depth has usually the best success.

To Angle for the Carp, &c.



THis Fish has always been in great esteem, and made many

many Industrious to find ways to take him. They delight in Sandy, or Muddy bottoms in still, deep Water, and in Green or Grass growing under the Water, by the sides of the Pond or River, though in a good Pond they thrive best; they are very wary, and hard to be catch'd; their first Spawning time is about *May-day*, breeding three times a year, and wonderfully increase if they like the Water they are in, they live long, though most disagree about their particular number of Years, and indeed I see no reason how he should be exactly known.

They bite very early in *April*, *May*, *June*, *July*, and *August* and sometimes all Night if the Weather be Hot, and Star-light in the still deep Water, if you Angle in the day time keep

of fight as much as may be; therefore provide a long Rod, he is very strong and must Play when struck, or he'll carry off your Hook by breaking the Line or Rod.

Use always the Float and Quill, Angle for him sometimes above, and sometimes below Mid-water, as the Weather is, though in Mid-water he is the certainliest taken, especially in Pond; but in Rivers they are very shy, lay a ground Bait for the *Carp* with ground Malt.

The Baits you use on your Hook must be Gentles; two or three on the Hook, then put a little square bit of Scarlet on the top of the Hook, above the bait of Gentles, dipped in Oil of the Rock, or Petre, this is held an excellent Bait; they like likewise Bobs, Wasps, Sweet Paists, Marsh-worms,

64 THE FINE ART
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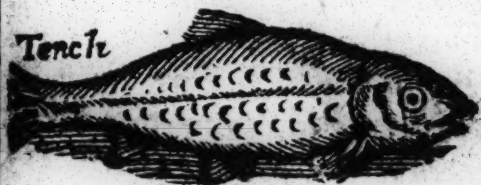
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Flag-worms, Gilt-tails, Dew-worms, the Cod-bait and Bread-grain boiled soft ; and in *June* and *July*, in the heat of the Day, they shew themselves on the top of the Water, and oftenest among Weeds, then you may take them with a well scowred Lobworm, Angling as with a Natural Fly, but in this case keep from their seeing you, as much as possible you can ; a *Carp* is a numerous breeder, as Spawning three or four times a year, therefore as a caution to those that stock Ponds with them, let them be warm and secure from Cold Winds, fenced by Trees, and the place allowing good feed, for otherwise the Pond being over stored, they will starve themselves, and the other Fish that are put in with them.

Observations

Observations on the Tench and the
best way to Angle for him.



THE *Tench* is accounted a very good Fish, and much coveted, yet he takes delight in Muddy or Foul Water, and among Weeds, the Ponds that are suitable for *Carp*, please him better than the Rivers, and in Pits he thrives better than in either, if they be agreeable to time, though in some Pits they will not, though they breed, come to any bigness, and in some it is held they will not breed at all, but if any be put in they will thrive wonderfully; but this I believe may happen where the

Storer is not skilful to distinguish Males from Females, but by an unlucky guess put in all of one sort, and though he covets Mud, yet his Fins are very large, and to know him from others, there are two little Barbs at the Angles or Corners of his Mouth, his Scales are small and smooth, and about his Eyes are Circles of a Golden colour, he is accounted the Physician to the rest, so that the Devouring Pike, who being sick is cured by him, will not, unless great hunger provoke, hurt or destroy him, though he spares not his own kind. This Gift of healing is said to be by a Medicinal Balm, sweating from his Skin, which the Sick Fishes take in as Physick, and indeed his Flesh is good in Consumptions, (or any Languishing of the parts) for Men. They Bite best from as
soon

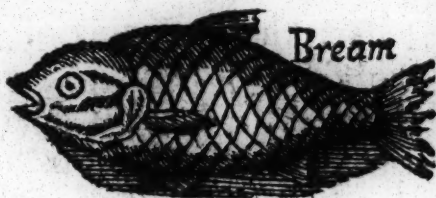
soon as it is Light, to Eight in the Morning, and from Four in the Afternoon, till a quarter after Sunset, but in the hot Months, if the Weather be not Tempestuous, they many times Bite all Night, their best Season is, from the beginning of September, to the end of May, and about the beginning of July the Tench Spawns.

He takes the Cod-bait, Marsh-worm, Gentle, Flag-worm or Red-worm well scowred, and to make it take the better, you may dip your Bait in a little Tar Water just before you use it, though the plain Bait many times pleases him well: For want of the former Baits, you may use Pastes sweetened with Honey, or Wasps.

Angle for him with a Float of Quill, letting the Bait into
D 3 the

the Water two foot, sometimes more or less, but no great matter.

The Bream his Haunts, and how to Angle for him.



THE *Bream* is a Large but Bonny Fish, he is found in Rivers and Ponds, but in the latter if convenient, he delights best, he is long growing, and will be very fat, and is almost as great a Breeder as the *Carp*. The *Breams* swim divers together, especially in a gentle stream, they love a Sandy or Clayey bottom, and the deepest and broadest part

part of the Water, your best time in Season, is to Angle for him from Sun-rise to Eight a Clock in a moderate stream, the Water a little Slimy or Muddy, especially when a good breeze troubles the Water, and in Windy Weather, if in a Pond, he generally keeps the middle, and there you are most likely to find him. In the Afternoon, your time is from Three or Four till Sun set. But in a Darkish, Windy Day, he Bites at any time.

He is Angled for with much success, from the beginning of April till Michaelmas, and may be taken at other times, except the very cold Months,

He takes as Baits, Flag-worms, Wasps, Gentles, Grasshoppers their Legs being off, Red-worms, Gilt-tails, and Meadow-worms well scowered, Robs,

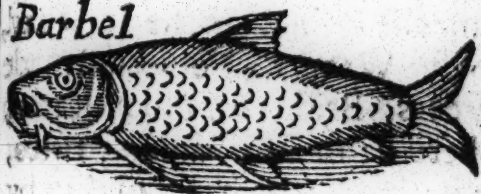
and under Water, Flies, especially the Green ones ; when he Bites, he runs off with the Bait to the further Shoar, or as far that way as he can, and therefore you must give him Play, for though he seems a Fish made strong enough, he will not much struggle, but after two or three turns he falls on one side, and may be easily Landed.

Here you must Angle with a Float, so that the Bait may touch the Ground, you may make ground Bait for *Bream*, with Malt, and it will draw them together.

The

*The Barbel how to find and Take
him by Angling.*

Barbel



THis Fish is very strong, and takes his Name from the Barbs that hang at his Mouth, is curiously shaped with small Scales. In the hot Months you will find him in the swift strong streams, though he shuns the current, and delights somewhat more out of the Rapidity, under shades of Trees, lurks under Trees that are fallen into the Water and Weeds, where they root in the Sands like a Hog, and so Nest, some suppose him

to Eat much Gravel and Sand, but I rather fancy he seeks for Insects or other food, that Heat and Moisture produces in the bottom of Shallows, yet sometimes he is found in the deep and swift Waters, especially at Wears, Bridges or Flood-gates, where he shelters among Piles, or on hollow places, holding by the Moss or Weeds, to prevent his being carried away by the Stream, when Winter is coming on he retires to the still Deep.

His best biting time is early in the Morning, that is, from the Sun Rising, till Ten, and from Four till the Sun Sets, and often later, and this principally happens from the 20th of May, to the latter end of August, you must be wary in taking him, for he is very subtil, and struggles long, unless well managed, many are found together frequently,

ly, but in April they are little worth, for then is the Spawning time.

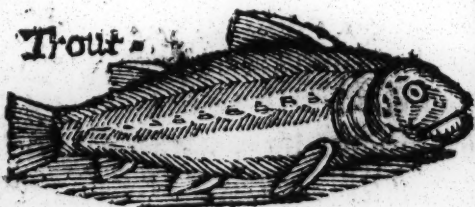
As for the Baits you intend to take him with, care must be had that they are very sweet, and such as give him not distast; Angle for him with a Float, and so let down the Bait that it may touch the Gravel: He takes Bobs, Humble-Bees, Gentles not over-scowred, Dew-worms, New-Cheese, Red-worms, Paste, the young brood of Wasps, Hornets, and so cunning he is, that you will be cheated of many a Bait in Angling for him, if you do not have a watchful Eye, and a quick Hand, for he will Nibble and Suck it off, and run to one when your Float sinks, and you attempt to strike, whether he has the Hook in his Mouth, yet often if you strike the contrary way his Head lies.

you

you may take him by the Nose, and give him Play till tired, or else if he be any thing large, unless your Tackle be very strong, part of it goes with him; he is not an over-pleasant Fish to Eat, by reason he's somewhat dry, and very full of Bones.

The Trout his Haunts, best way to Angle for him, and his Baits.

Trout



TO be most sure of finding the Trout, address your Angle to small Purling Brooks, or swift gliding Rivers, not too great, observe whether their bot-

Bottoms are Pebble, Gravel or smooth Stones, for on the sides of these he usually has his Residence, though he is often found in the deep, especially a large one, also behind Banks, Blocks, Stones, at Turnings or Points, where the Stream much beats, or makes a kind of whirling, he loves coverture and shade, from whence he may most easily seize his Prey, but his hold or hole is usually in deep places, he is seldom found among Weeds, rather among the Boughs of Trees that hang in the Water or Shady Bushes, he plies in Spring at the Tail of the Stream, but as many other Fish do, about the middle of May at the upper end, staying long in a place, if his hold be near it, in the hot Weather, he leaves the deep, and goes into the sharper streams among Gravel, unless by

by the Excessive Heat of the Weather, droughts ensue, and then the still deep delights him.

This Trout may be taken by dibbing, or if the Weather be Dark, Cloudy and Windy, you may take him with the Cast-fly, he is in Season from *March* till *Michaelmas*, but chiefly about the end of *May*, when he is in the best Season; his Body is adorned with red spots, the Female is accounted better than the Male, they much affect to be near the Source or Spring of Rivers, and where they run on Lime Stones, there the best *Trouts* are found.

Angle for him at the ground with a running Line, with two or three small Pellets of Lead, omitting the Float, or you may take him by Float Angling at the ground, if you are dexterous at Angling with a single Hair, two Links from your Hook,

Hook, he is much sooner taken than with two or three Hairs, though you must be cautious he break not the Line, and this is better done at the bottom, than top, because there he has not so much force to shoot and spring, as on the top, and a single Hair next the Hook, if well chosen and strong, will take one of 13 Inches, if there be Water-room, free from Wood and Weeds.

He Bites best in a Water that after a Flood is clearing, or rising, somewhat Troubled; Cloudy and Windy Weather, early in the Morning is the best time from the middle of *April*, to the end of *August*, from Sun-rising till near Eleven, and from two till Sun-set, but Nine in the Morning, and Three in the Afternoon are the best times, at the Ground or Fly as the Water is

is most agreeable, in *March*, the beginning of *April*, *September*, and till the fifteenth of *October*, and then you must cease Angling for the *Trout*, to the end of *February*, after a shower has fallen in the Evening, you will find him rise at a Gnat. In warm Weather you may dib for him with the Minow or Loach.

As for other Baits than what I have mentioned, the principal are at the Ground, Brandlings, Gilt-tails, Tag-tails, Meadow-worms, and for the greater, Dew-worms well scowred, the two first hold him all the Seasons, either in Muddy or Clear Waters, the rest do well when the Water is discoloured with Rain, you may use a Cod-bait, either for Top or Bottom, but then it must be in Clear Water, he takes the Palmer-fly or Wool-bed, and all sorts of Artificial

Artificial and Natural Flies at the top of the Water. When you Bait with small Fish, as the Menow, Bull-head and Loach, cut off their Fins, and the Gills of the latter, and so with these Instructions and a little practice to ripen Experience, depend on success.

The Eel their Haunt, Bait, and Taking them, &c.



There is many disputes about the Generation of *Eels*, whether they generate and breed as other Fish do, or proceed from Mud and Putrefaction, enlivened by Heat and Moisture, but

but my business being to Instruct you how to come by them I shall lay no stress on that nicety, since *Eels* there are, and for their delicacy, are called by some the Queen of Fish.

Their Haunts in the day time are usually under the covert of Tree-roots, Brush-wood, Planks or Piles, about Flood-gates, Weirs, or Mill-dams, in hollow holes in Banks, they mostly delight in foul still Water, or at least such as runs very slow with Ousey Sand, or Muddy Bottoms, in Pits, Ponds and Meers.

Bait for him with a young Lamprey, Dew-worms, scowled Earth-worms, any very small Fish their Fins cut off, Gut of Chickens or other Fowl cut in small lengths, Lean Beef, the Brood of Wasps, the four first take him Day or Night, but

most of the rest are properest
for Night Hooks,

Take him in the day by a
Ledger Bait, by Snigling, Bob-
bing, Brogling; as for Brogling
and Snigling, the best method I
have known is this, get a long
and strong Line, your Hook of
a small compass, Baited with
scowred Red-worms, or Dew-
worms, having one end of your
Line in your Hand, place very
easily the upper end of your
Hook in the Cleft of a Hazle-
Rod of convenient length, so
that it may slip out as you please,
and where you fancy the *Eel* to
be, let the Bait leasurely sink,
and supposing it swallowed by
giving time leasurely, draw him
up by little and little, else lying
double, with the strength of his
Tail, your Line is endanger-
ed.

This

This you must practise in
Weather, the Waters being low
As for

Bobbing, take large Earth
worms out of good Mould
scowre them well in Moss, and
run a strong thread with a needle
through them end-ways, as man-
ny as will lightly wrap a dozen
times round your Hand, make
them into Links, and fasten them
to a strong Pack-thread or Whip
cord two yards or more long
make a knot about six or eight
Inches from the Worms, put
about three quarters of a pound
of Plummet, made Pyramidi-
cally on the Cord, by the means
of a hollowness, or hole bored
through it, and let it sink to the
knot, fix the Cord to a manage-
able Pole; Angle with this in
Muddy or Cloudy Water in the
sides of the Streams, or Deeps
when the *Eel* or *Eels* Tug, let
them

hem be well fastened by the
loweth, before you draw up,
en do it gently, till on the
arth, and hoist them quickly then
oul Land; many by this way have
an taken at a time.

Some near *Eels* Haunts sink a
s mattle of Hay loosely bound,
ozeffed with Fowls Guts and Li-
mak cut in long shreads over-
theght, and coming Early the
Whixt Morning, drawing it up
ongtily by the Rope fastened to
ight Band, find large *Eels* bedded
Put it for the sake of the Prey.
ounis may be done with a bundle
nidi Brush-wood, out of which
ean on pulling up, they cannot so
orefly get.

80 THE FINE FISH
To Angle, &c. for the Grayling
or Umber.

THough this Fish has two Names given it, the former for the lesser sort, and the latter for the greater, yet both are the same Species.

Their Haunts are in Marl Clay, Clear Water, and swift Streams, the largest is accounted eighteen Inches, being in Season all the year, but their prime is *December*, when his Gills and Head are Blackish and his Belly a dark Gray, studed with Black spots, he will Bite freely, but is very tender mouthed, therefore be careful he break not hold, though he will not struggle much, as being very faint when he is Hooked. Angle for him, in or near the middle of the Water, for he always

always more apt to rise than descend, wherefore he is rarely taken by a Ground Bait, rather than a running Line, use for him a Float of Cork, if you particularly Angle for him, but for *Salmon* and *Trout* the running line is the best.

As for Baits, he takes Brandings, Gilt-tails, Meadow-worms, Rag-tails, the Bark-worm, Flag-worm, Meadow-worm, Cod-bait, Natural or Artificial Flies, particularly the Camlet Fly, and Fly made of Purple Wool, and one made of Tawny Chamber Hair, also the Earth-bob and Clap-bait.

*The Pope or Ruff, his Haunts,
how to Angle for him, with pro-
per Baits, &c.*

THE Pope or Ruff, is one be-
ing in Shape, Nature and
Disposition, like the *Pearch*,
though in bigness not exceeding
a large *Gudgeon*, but of a more
pleasing taste, he Rites Eager-
ly, and many of them are usual-
ly together, where the Water
runs slowly and is deep in San-
dy places, fifty of them have
been taken at a standing. You
may Bait for him with the small
Red-worm, Gilt-tail, Meadow
worm, and other Baits proper
for the *Pearch*, he Biting at the
same time the *Pearch* do's; you
may ground Bait with new turn-
ed up Earth of a Fallow, as also
with a Clear Sand, you may take
him with a single Hair, the Link

next

next the Hook, the Body of it is rough, and hath prickly, and sharp Fins; it has its Seasons and Nature like the *Pearch*, and is a very wholesome Fish, eating short and tender.

the Bleak or Bley, to Angle for him, &c.

THis Fish makes sport, though not much valued, as not being very wholesome, it is many times destroyed by a Worm that breeds in its Stomach, in what Weather he bites eagerly, and you may Fish for him with the several Hooks on one Line, and if you catch three or four together on the several Hooks, not fear the breaking of your Line, tying them about half a foot one above the other, he is easily taken

E ken

ken with Gentles, small Red-worms, and the Dub-fly which must be of a sad brown; Angle at middle Water, or at the top, for he is usually in motion; There is another sort of these, called the *Sea-Bleak*, better and wholesomer than this, called by some the *Sea-Camelion*, because in the Water he seems often to change his colour.

*The Chub or Chevin his Haunts,
and to Angle for him.*

THE *Chub* though large, is a very timorous Fish, he is found in large Rivers, having Sandy or Clayey bottoms, delights much in Streams shaded with Trees, as also in holes, where many of them consort together, he is in Season from the

the middle of *May* till after *Candlemas*, you may take him with dibbing on the top of the Water, but in the hot Months he keeps mid-water, in the colder Weather Angle at the bottom with the Ledger Bait.

He bites from Sun-rising till Eight, and from Three till Sunset, the large one when struck is soonest tired, the less will struggle longer, and in Sunshiny Weather they bite, in Winter the middle of the Day.

He scarcely refuses any Bait, if not too large, as Lamprys-pride, the Eels Brood, Dew-worms, large Red-worms scowred in Moiss and Gravel, Clap-baits, small Snails, White and Black Cheese Paste, the Marrow of an Ox or Cows Back, a Beetle with the Legs off, all sorts of Baits bred on Trees,

Plants and Herbs, Cod-baits
 Brood of Wasps, Hornets and
 Humble-Bees, the Fat of Ruffy
 Bacon, Dors, Grasshoppers, al-
 so Rasberries, Black-Berries,
 Mulberries, a Fly, and a Cod-
 bait, and an Oak worm on the
 Hook together, infallibly takes
 him in the hot Months.

When he is taken he must be
 eaten the same Day, or is little
 worth, most esteem his Head
 the best part.

*Dace or Dare, and Roach, their
 Haunts, Baits, and how to An-
 gle for them.*

THese delight in Ponds or Ri-
 vers with Gravelly bot-
 toms or Sand, they love deep
 Clear Waters, shaded with
 Trees, either in Rivers, or else
 where;

where ; the *Dace* Spawn about the middle of *March*, and are in Season three Weeks after, the *Flesh* is soft and sweet in taste, and in *Italy* they are pickled as *Anchovies*.

You must Angle for the *Dace*, within two Inches of the bottom, and sometimes the *Bair* may touch it if it be with *Worms*, but with *Flies*, at the top of the *Water*, or within an Inch.

The *Roach* Spawns about the middle of *May*, and is so healthful, that his Soundness has created an usual saying, though often causes some to tell Lies: The best *Roach* by reason of the abundance of *Soil* are found in the *Thames* near *London*; Angle for him about two foot in the *Water*, and in Temperate Weather they bite all day long, the Float Angle takes them best.

Their Baits are numerous as their Fry, as Worms bred on Trees, Plants, Herbs, Gentles, Cod-baits, Grasshoppers with the Legs off, Flies Artificial or Natural; particularly the Ant-fly, Meadow-worms scowred, Bread-Corn boiled; the Roach in Ponds is chiefly found under the Water-docks, if there be any, and indeed few small come amiss to them.

*The Flounder or Flook, his
Haunts, Baits, and Angling.*

THIS is properly a Salt-water Fish, no where but in Rivers that have Communication with the Sea, and is first brought up by the Tide, and loosing himself in fresh Streams, he after some time minds not his way back

back again; they love Gentle Streams, Gravelly and Sandy bottoms, are very shy, and not easily taken; they bite all the day, May, June, July, and the beginning of August, though he will Nibble much about the Hook, and suck off the Bait, if you be not wary to keep it in motion, which hinders him from seeing the Hook, if he do, away he flies from it, sometimes he's in the Deep, and sometimes in the Shallow, he takes scowred Meadow or Marsh-worms, Earth-worms, Gentles, the Brood of Wasps, Gilt-tails and Brandlings; he is to be Angled for with the Float, and your Bait must touch the ground.

*The Minow, or Pench, Loach,
and Bull-head or Millers
Thumb, Lampreys.*

THese are rather Baits for other Fish than of any value in themselves. The first is taken with small Worms, Brandlings, and Gilt-tails; the two latter with Gilt-tails, Meadow-worms at the Ground; *Lampreys* are taken as the *Eel*, being much of that nature, therefore I omit for brevities sake to be tedious on these.

Observations on, and Rules for Natural Fly Angling.

THIS is a choise point in Angling, requiring a quick Eye, and wary Hand; it is term-

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termed by Artists Dibling, Dibling, or Dapeing, and is performed on the Surface of the Water, or at most sometimes not Letting the Bait sink above two or thre Inches under, nor that, unless the Oake-fly, for the Chub or Trout, has joyned to it, a Clap-bait or God-bait.

This must ever be done in Clear Water without Lead or Float, in the Evening of a Hot Day, or in a Hot Calm day is best, and the Still Deep is to be preferred before the Stream, though on the side of a Stream, when the Water is Clearing after great Rains, or a Flood, is very proper, and all hours you may Dib with the Green Drake-fly, and if you needs must do't in the Stream, use the Stone-fly, which is proper Early and Late, but if in the Evening it is Windy, take the Artificial Stone-fly,

which I shall teach you to make; for then in the Stream the Fish, rise the best, and are soonest taken, and if you pull off the Wings, you may Angle in the Water with it, and it will take very much in a Stream near the bottom, you must in this case observe to keep out of sight, as much as may be, and keep your Fly moving, that it may appear to the Fish to be alive.

In Dabbing for *Dace*, *Roach* or *Chub*, let not your motion be swift, if you can perceive any of them coming towards it, but make two or three short removes, as if there were a Rest, or the Fly were Swimming or Playing, then let it gently glide with the Stream if possible towards the Fish, but if it be slow or standing Water, you must keep it moving with your Hand, not just upon him, but side-ways
and

and floaping by him, this lest it should escape him, will make him mind it the more, for only the *Trout*, if it be moved swiftly, will of any certainty follow it.

In a Calm Dibbing it is not so sure, as when a pretty good Gale stirs the Water, for then neither you, nor the deceit put on the Fish by an Artificial Fly, is so easily discovered, and then few Natural Flies at liberty can lye on the Water, and for want of choice, they will Snap at the first, that comes in their way, and bite more eager for hunger, and if they will not rise at the top, try them a little lower, for some will be sooner taken, as the *Roach*, particularly by Dibbing under the Water than at top. *Roach*, *Dace* and *Chub* will sometimes be pleased with an Artificial Fly, especially if

an

an Earth-bib, Cod-bait, Earth-worm, or Gentle, be put on the point of the Hook, or an Oak-worm, is very pleasing on the top or under the Water.

At Dibbing and Trayling, Trout and Salmon-Smelts will take an Artificial Fly well, particularly the Stone-fly and Green-drake, Early, or late in the evening; and if you Fish for Salmon-Smelt, Roach, Chub or Dace, with the Dub fly, put on a Gentle, Wasp, Cod-bait or Rap-bait, let it stand well on the point of your Hook, when the Wind Furls the Waters, and new Flies appear on it, or over this is the best time to Angle with the Fly Natural or Artificial; for them having no variety of choice, they will quickly take your Bait; if it be a Sunny day, get under the shade of Trees if you can, that neither the

the shadow of your Body, nor Rod may appear in the Water to fright them away; if you find the Fish rise not at top, sink your Fly by degrees, and try even to middle-water, and before the sorts of Flies are naturally in Season, the Fish very rarely rise at them, therefore to know this, that you mistake not in your Baiting, observe what Flies are on the Water, or flying near over it, or are on the Rushes or Trees, of Ponds and Rivers, and that Fly that Swarms there most, is chief in Season, and is to be used either Natural, or to be imitated by Artifice; some open the first Fish they take, and look in its Stomach to see what indigested Food there remains, and from that take their measures, tho' uncertain; for either it must be partly consumed, or so discoloured

red

104. *The true Art*

red that it cannot well be known, and also Fish for Extream hunger, take in such Food at one time, as at another they altogether dislike.

You may for other Baits found in Rivers, grope in the Sand, Bank-sides within the Water, under the Stones, or observe what Insects are Playing, or Swimming in, or on the Surface of the Water, and so accordingly provide your self with seasonable Baits. In May you may Dobb with Oak-flies, Fern-flies, or Oak-worms for Trout, and all Summer with the Fern-fly for Chub, keeping the Bait moving on the top of the Water, as if it were alive, and your self out of sight, as much as possible it may be.

Artificial

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Artificial Fly Angling.

ARtificial Dub-fly or Cast-fly Angling, is somewhat more difficult, and requires more cunning than the former, and is more perfectly Learned by seeing it done, than by Printed directions, however I doubt not but to give a satisfactory account of it to the Angler.

The first thing to be materially considered is, to know and chuse the proper colours of Flies in Season when you Angle, and these must be proportioned to the places you Fish in ; for there are different Haunts of Flies, and are found much earlier in some places than in others, as the Season proves Hot or Cold ; a warm Spring brings them early, but the contrary latter, sometimes by a Month, and

and always sooner in high grounds, than in those that are Low and Marshy, or Boggy.

And though sometimes upon disgust, Fish suddenly change their Fly, yet it is not usual, untill they have been glutted with one sort, and that must be some days first, and then that sort of Fly is near going out: Nor will they freely take them, till they are at their best and most plentiful, and it always follows, when one sort goes out, another comes in, which you must have a special regard well to note, and make the change with them.

The Fly required being found, your next business is, to make one in Colour, Shape, Proportion of Body and Wings, as like it as possible, always having the Natural one as a Pattern; and to do this, you must have in
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Colou
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readiness Bears-hair of divers Colours, Camels hair- Sad, Light, and of middle indifferent Colour, Badgers hair, Spaniels hair, Sheeps wool, Dogs hair, Hog Down, such as is Combed from the Roots or Bristles of a Hog, Camblets and Mohairs of divers Colours, Cows hair, Abortive Calves, and Colts hair.

Furs of Squirrels Tails, the Tails of Black Cats, Yellow and Dun Cats, of Hares Necks, the Fern Colour Ferrets Fur, Martins, Yellow Fur, Filmers Fur, the Tails of White Weasles, Moles, Black Rabbits, Down of a Fox Cub, Ash-Colour at the Roots of Fox, Fur that comes off the Otter, and Otter Cub, Blackish and Brown Badgers hair, that has been in a skinners Lime-Pit.

Hackles or Feathers about
Cock or Capons Neck, and such
as hang loosely down on each
side the Tail, of various colours
particularly to make the Palmer
fly, or Insect called the Wood
beet, you must have Feathers of
all sorts of Fowl, and those col-
oured Feathers required that
you cannot get natural, you
may dye.

You must also have Caddow
or Blankets, out of which are
got good Dubbings, so of Cur-
shions made of Abortive Skins
of Calves and Colts, like Silver
Wire, Gold Twist, Silver
Twist; White and Yellow Bee-
wax, for Ground Work or to
frame the Bodies and Heads on
as the Nature of the Fly more
or less requires it, and a sharp
pointed neat pair of Scissars
to trim and shape your Work.

How to make the Dub-Fly.

WET your Materials to know how they will hold Colour, for though dry they may appear of the right Colour, yet Wet they may alter, and be too Light or too Dark; this done, take the Hook in your Left Hand, between your fore-finger and thumb, the shanks back upwards, take strong Silk of that Colour the Fly requires and Wax it with Wax of the same Colour, and draw it to the Head of the Shank, betwixt your Finger and Thumb, and whip it about the bare hook two or three times; draw your Line between your Thumb and Finger, holding the Hook so fast, that it may only have space to pass by, joining the Hook and Line,
Put

put on the Wings, fashion the
 Body and Head, by twisting the
 Dubbing on your Waxed Silk
 and Lapping it on, so Work it
 by degrees uptowards the Head
 and part the Wings of an even
 length, or the Fly will not Swim
 upright; then turn it into a
 proper shape, by nipping off the
 surperfluous Dubbing from the
 Silk, so fasten and accouter your
 Fly: It would be well to see
 one done by an Experienced
 Angler, and then these Directi-
 ons will be easie to you.

*Directions relating to Dub-flies
 and Angling with them.*

1. **W**Hen you proportion
 your Dub-fly, consi-
 der the largeness or littleness of
 the Fish you intend it for, and

sure the Belly of it is of the exact colour, because it is most obvious.

2. Let not the Tail of the Fly be only to the bend of the Hook, and not come unto the end of it.

3. If the *Trout* at the top of the Water refuse it, the day is not proper for it, or the Fly either out of Season, or ill made.

When you Angle with the Tubfly, it must be in such a River or Water which is clear, after Rain, or in a River a little discoloured with Moss or Bogs, in Moorish places, or else in a cloudy, Gloomy Day, when the Water is stirred by gentle sales; or if the Winds be pretty high, they will rise in the plain deep, but in little Wind, the best is to Angle in the Stream.

Keep your Fly in continual motion in all Weathers, to prevent

vent the Fish from discerning the fraud ; in clear and low Water let the Body of the Fly be the smaller, and the Wings very slender. In Dark Weather and thick Water, let the Fly be of a darkish colour, but it must be pretty large Body and Wings the better to be discovered in a clear day, a light coloured Fly is preferable.

A Rod for the Dub-fly should be five yards at least, and the Line about seven, or somewhat more, if the Water be free from Incumbrance of Weeds, and to adapt your Fly to the colour of the Water more properly, have three of the sort, the one Light, the next a degree Darker, and the third the true Colour of the Natural Fly by trying all which, you may gain the more Experience, for one of them cannot well mis-

slow Rivers, Muddy and Slip-
 y bottomed in great Droughts
 expect little success, but rather
 chuse Pebbly, Sandy or Stony
 bottoms in, a running Stream,
 which much Cools and Refreshes
 the Fish in the hot months.

Let your Eye be steady on
 what you are about, and your
 hand ready to strike when it is
 convenient, which is with the
 rising of the Fish; or he find-
 ing his mistake will throw out
 the Hook again: But for a great
 fish, I must hold it proper to let
 him turn his Head with the Bait,
 which will less strain your
 tackle, for so he will strike him-
 self, and then do it moderate-

Upon Casting, do it with a
 gentle circling about your Head,
 waving the Rod; or else the
 Fly may with too smart a Jerk
 be apt to snap off, cast the Fly
 behind

behind a *Trout* at his rising, and there
 so with a gentle Hand draw it towards
 over his Head, so that not scaring him, River
 ring him, he will quickly take given
 it if it be the right colour. matte

In Casting, observe to do easie
 always before you, that it may descri
 fall on the Water, and no part of rope
 of the Line dash, to scare away them.
 the Fish; and do it if you can
 without making any circle in Artific
 the Water: But if the Winds be of
 high, some part must be in the mak
 Water to keep the Fly from
 being blown out. Take your Febr.
 standing so, if possible, that the
 Sun may be in your Face, and have
 the Wind to your Back. may be

In still or Slow Water, cast hair,
 your Fly almost a cross the Ridge
 ver or Pond, and draw it to Hack
 wards you gently a little way. T
 that you break not the Water be I
 or put it in trouble, and let Fox
 it bear with the Current in Silk,
 there

there be any, Fishing downwards and not upwards of the River. Thus having as I hope given plain Instructions in these matters, to be understood by easie Capacities, I proceed to describe Artificial Flies, for the proper Month of Angling with them.

Artificial Flies proper in the Month of the Fishing Season, how to make them.

Febr. **T**HE Palmer-fly or Plain Hackle must have a rough black body, which may be done with black Spaniels hair, or the Whirl of an Estridge Feather, and the red Hackle of a Capon, all over.

The Prince Dun, this may be Dubbed of the Down of a Fox Cub, with Ash-coloured Silk, the Wings of a Stares Feather,

ther, this must be made little *Spaniel*.

The little Red, Brown Dub, ed C
with the softest hair on the Gr
black spot of a Hogs Ear, the Duck.
Wings of Mallards Feathers *Apri*
near white, wrap it on withakes e
red Silk.

March. The Green-tail may hair a
be made of the brown hair of a Violet
Spaniel, taken from the out-side *realie*
of the Ear, and a little from the *The H*
extream of the Tail. *all thi*

Morish brown, may be Dub. colour
bed with Black Sheeps Wool, *Tami*
Red Silk, and the Wings made brow
of a Partridges Wing Fea- *light*
ther. *TI*

Thorn-tree-fly Dub of a very very
good black, and mix a little *Isa- and*
bella coloured Mohair; with it *Fur v*
make a little body, and the *M*
Wings of a Mallards brightest *exce*
Feathers *Hoc*

The early bright brown, *Bea*
make of the Hair of a brown *from*
Spaniel,

aniel, that of the flank of a
ed Cow, and Wing it with
e Grey Feather of a Wild
Duck.

April. The Violet-fly, which
akes excellently from the sixth
o the tenth, make of Bears
hair a light Dun, mixed with
Violet stuff, Wing it with the
greasie Feathers of a Mallard :
The Horse-flesh-fly, which lasts
all this Month, Dub with Pink
colours, Blew Mohair, and Red
Tammy, let the Head be dark
brown, and the Wings of a
light colour.

The small bright Brown, is
very well taken in a clear Day
and Water, make it of Spaniels
Fur with a light Grey Wing.

May. The Green Drake an
excellent killer, Dub on a large
Hook with Camels hair, bright
Bears hair, soft Down combed
from the Bristles of a Hog, mix

yellow Camlet ; let the Body be long, and Rib it with green Silk mixed with yellow ; let the Whisks of his Tail be the long hair of Sables, his Wings, the light grey Feather of a Mallard died yellow.

The Stone-fly Dub, with Dun Bears hair, mix it with a little brown and yellow Camlet, that she may be yellower on the Belly and Tail, than in any other part, to be the better liked by the Fish, who mostly Eyes the Belly of Baits ; and to adorn it the more, place two or three hairs of the Beard of a Black Cat, on the top of the Hook, in the Whipping or Arming, and in warping on your Dubbing, staring one from another something upright, Rib her with yellow Silk, make the Wings long and large, of the dark grey Feather of a Mallard, or other such like Feather.

The

The Grey Drake comes in when the Green one goes out, much of shape with it, but in colour differs, and must be made of a paler and more blewish yellow and green, his Ribs quite down his Body must be of black, with black shining Wings very thin, and may be made of the grey feathers of a Mallard, the Down under Hogs Bristles, the black Hair of a Spaniel, and the Whisks of his Tail, of the Beard of a Black Cat.

June. The Ant-fly is dubbed with brown and red Camlet, the Wing of the Feathers of a light-grey Pidgeon.

The Purple-fly, with Purple Wool, mixed with light brown Bears-Hair, the Wings of a Stares Feather, Dub it with Purple Silk.

The brown Hackle make of the lightest brown Hair of a

175 THE ART OF THE FLY
somewhat grown Colt, with a
red Hackle or Cocks Neck-fea-
ther over it,warped with Hair
colour or Ash coloured Silk.

July. Orange-fly, Dub this
with Orange coloured Cruel or
Wool, and the Feathers of a
Black-Birds Wing.

The Wasp fly. Do this with
brown Dubbing, or else of the
Hair of a black Cats-tail; rib it
with yellow Silk, and make the
Wings of the grey Feather of
a Mallard's Wing.

The blew Dun must be made
with the Down of a Water-
Mouse, and the blewish Dun
found on an old Fox; mix them
well together, and Dub with sad
Ash coloured Silk, the Feathers
of a Stares Quill, will furnish
you with Wings.

August. The late Ant-fly
may be Dubbed of the Hair of a
Cow, that is of a blackish brown,
and

and for the tagging of the Tails wrap in some red, and make the Wing of a dark Feather, this Fly takes admirably.

The Fern-fly must properly be Dubbed with the Wool taken from a Hares Neck, of the colour of Fern, when dry, make the Wings of the darkish grey Feather of a Mallard.

The Hearth-fly, Dub of the Wool of an Aged Black Ewe, with some grey Hair to accommodate the Body and Head, Dub with black Silk, and take the light Feather of a Stare for the Wings.

September. The little blew dun, make of the Fur of a Water-Mouse, Dub it with sad Ash-coloured Silk, and wing it with the Feather of a blew Pidgeon.

The late Badger, do this with Badgers Hair that is Black, whip with red Silk, and use a

darkish grey Mallards Feather
for the Wings,

The Camel brown-fly, pull
out for Dubbing, the Hair in
the Lime of old Wall, whip
it with red Silk, make the Wings
of a Stares lightest Feather.

October. This Month is sup-
plied by the Flies of the former,
for all being now upon their go-
ing away, any almost will do.
And thus Reader keeping to my
intended Brevity, I have singled
you out the best killing Flies
from a great many more, and by
knowing how well to make these,
you may soon imitate all others,
by having a Natural Fly before
you, and chusing your materials
suitable to her coulor, and shape
her as you see the other, and
then promise your self success in
Angling with her as directed.

Various,

*Various
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Various, but very Curious Observations on Angling: divers ways of Angling not Commonly known.

NOte that sometimes all sorts of Fish take Baits at the ground, when but some sorts will take the Fly at the Top of the Water; and therefore to Angle for a *Trout* with a Worm, chuse the running Line without any Float, only small Plummetts in their proper places. This is successful at the Ground, either in Clear or Muddy Water.

As for the latter, use a Line a little more then half the Length of the Rod, and sometimes less than that length, and the lowermost Links must be at least three Hairs, and one at Top of four, whereof have a Water Noose or Loop, to put it to another Link of four hairs, having also a Loop

or Water Noose as its bottom;
so proceed with Links of five or
six hairs a piece, till you come
to the top-most, make the low-
est of Chesnut colour, or Sorrel
brown. Then to your Reed or
Cane, have a Top neither too
stiff nor too feeble, but between
both, the Cane about three
yards and a half long, and the
Top about a yard and a half, or
near two yards, in one or two
pieces, and five or six Inches of
Whale-bone, smooth, round, and
pliant.

Observe to Lead your Line,
as is consistent with the Water;
in rough Streams more than in
small gentle streams, and least
of all in still Water; then
carry the top or point of your
Rod in a level with your Hand,
and so you will by the point of
your Rod, perceive the Bite
at the Ground, then strike
straight

straight and gently upwards, and by a little slackening your Hand before, you will give the Fish time the better to take the Bait.

Some are of opinion, if you know that a *Trout* Bites, to strike at the first Biting, but this is only allowed in Clear Water for *Salmon-Smelts*, *Trout* and *Grayling*, and the Bait is the best Red-worms scowred, or a Brandling, and Gilt-tail turned Head to Tail, and run cross wise through the middle under the Wings, and so you may do in Muddy Water with other Worms, as 2 Brandlings, two Meadow-worms, &c. A *Trout* will seize on the Bait when it drags on the ground, either in Clear or Muddy Water, but a large *Grayling* will rather rise a Foot or more at your Bait from the bottom, than descend.

THE TRUE ART
If a large *Trout* you Angle
for in Muddy Water, then it
requires some art in Baiting
your Hook, as suppose the Bait
a Dew-worm, here you must
thrust the Hook in towards the
Tail, a little above the middle,
and out again below the Head,
then draw him above the Arm-
ing of the Hook, or Whipping,
so put the point into the Head
of the Worm, till it is very
near the place where the point
of the Hook first came out, and
so draw back the Worm or
that part that was above the
Shank. This Hook should be
indifferent large.

To Bait two Worms in Mud-
dy Water for a *Trout*, &c, from
eight to ten Inches: Take Mea-
dow-worms, or Brandlings, or
a Brandling and Gilt-tail, and
run the point of the Hook in at
the Head down the Body, till
it

it pass the knot, or come to the middle of the Worm ; then strip it above the Arming or Whipping, not bruising it in any manner with your Fingers, so put on the other, by running the Hook in the same manner, and let the Head of it just cover the point of the Hook, then slip the first down, till the knots or middle of both Worms meet together ; and thus you may do by any other Worms, for other Fish, as by foregoing directions you find they take them.

Directions for Angling with the running Line in Clear Water.

PUT a Gilt-tail and small Brandling on your Hook, as before directed, well scowred, and here your Hook must be much smaller than in Muddy Water,

Water, two or three of the lowermost Links of your Line of a single Hair, so rise from two, to three, or four, of a grey or dusky White, the Line about two yards shorter than the Rod, Leaded with a small black Plummet.

Angle with this in the stream always up it, in a River with a light Hand, still casting out the Worm before you ; let the Rod be as the former : And thus you may Angle for Salmon-Smelts, Trout or Grayling, to whose proper Baits I refer you in my Treatise of Baits in this Book.

Directions for the Top-Water Angling with a Worm.

YOUR Line in this case must be longer than your Rod, without any Plummet or Float, draw.

drawing your Bait down and up the stream, in a clear day, with a gentle Hand, that it may glide as if it were swimming, and your Bait here must be a Gilt-tail, or Brandling, keep it from the Shoar, and free from Intanglements of Weeds Wood, Rushes, or other Incumbrances that hinder sport.

*Farther Directions for Float.
Angling.*

Here your Line must be two or three foot longer than your Rod in Rivers, but in Ponds and Pits something shorter, Angling in Clear Water for Salmon Smeits, Trout or Grayling, you must put but one Hair next the Hook, but in Muddy Water, and for other Fish two or three, observing the running Line and Rod for the

the *Tench*, and proportion this to it, Lead it moderately, but so that it may keep the Line straight and even, but for *Tench*, *Carp*, *Barbel* or *Chub*, your Rod and Line must have an additional strength in the thickness of the one, and the number of Hairs in the other, and your Float manageable in the Water, proportioned according to the swiftness or slowness of the Water, but with one Worm, the Water being very Clear; and observe for some sort of Fish, as *Flounders*, *Salmon Smelts*, *Bream* and *Gudgeon*, your Bait must drag on the ground, but for other sorts, as *Tench*, *Roach*, *Bleak*, *Pike*, *Ruff*, and *Carp*, at mid-water; for *Grayling* and *Pearch*, at six or nine Inches from the bottom. The *Cub* is often taken at Bottom, Mid-water and Top.

You

You may use the various sorts of Baits, Angling with a Float; but Ground Baits are most frequently used, and with success.

Directions for Drabbling.

BY this, *Barbles* of large size are taken; to do it compleatly, observe these Rules.

Have a strong Line of six yards, which before you fasten it to your Rod, must be put through a piece of Lead, that if the Fish bite, it may slip to and fro, and that the Water may something move it on the ground, Bait it with a pretty large Lobworm well scowred, and so by its motion, the *Barbel* will be inticed into the danger without suspicion. The best places are in running Water near Piles, or under Wooden Bridges, supported with Oaks floated and slimy.

Ang.

Angling with the Ledger-Bait.

This is used for variety of Exercise, to give rest to the Anglers, and so differs from others that are called walking Baits, and this is, when the Bait continues to rest in one fixed and certain place.

Here you must take off your Float, but let the Lead remain, and within half a yard of the top of the Line, wrap a thin plate of Lead, an Inch and half long, and pretty broad, viz. about an Inch, so fasten your Line to your Rod; cast in your Bait either into a still flow draught, or gentle stream, and when it is at the bottom you may stick your Rod in the Bank of the River, or hold it in your hand at discretion, and by the bending of the Rod, or motion

tion of the Lead at top, you will perceive when the Fish Bites, give her some time, and strike contrary to where her head lyes. The *Chub* and *Eel* are successfully taken this way.

To lay Night Hooks.

TO do this effectually, procure a small Cord, which may be about sixteen yards long, and to this at equal distances, tye five or six fine twisted Flax or Silk Lines, about eighteen Inches each, of the thickness of your Trowling Line, fasten them so that they may be easily removed, and put on again, whip to the ends of each of them a pretty strong hook, Bait with a Loach, Minnow or Bull-head, the Fins and Gills cut off ; or these being wanting, the Seven Eyes, Eel.

Eel-brood, small Roach, Gudgeon, the Pith of an Ox or Cows Back Bone, &c. will serve for the Fish, put the point of the Hook in at the Tail, and out at the Mouth, so that the Fishes Head may have a resting in the Hooks bent, and that the point may not be discovered, cover it with a Worm, and casting the Cord by a weight, over the River, Stream or Pond, fasten both ends to stakes on either side, and be there Early in the Morning, and expect *Chub*, large *Eels*, *Trout* or *Pike*, but for a *Pike* keep the Bait with a Float, about a foot or something more from the bottom.

For this to gather the Fish, you may Bait the Ground with Blood and Grains, or Sweet, made up in Sweet Earth, taken from under the green Soard, or Pasts, &c.

Choice

choice Receipts, or Rare Secrets, never before made Publick.

TAke Oyl of Amber, Rosemary and Myrrh, an equal quantity, infuse in them any Worms, or mingle Paste with them, and the Fish if near, will fasten to the Bait so dipped, and then not have power to go away, till she either Nibbles off the Bait, or is Taken.

Oyl of Water Lillies, and the Juice of Mulberries, is excellent to make up Paste with, especially with a few drops of Oyl of Peny-royal in it, and the Fat of a Hedg-hog or Urchin.

Ground-bait for *Carp* with unpickled Samphire bruised, and made into Balls, with Walnut-Oyl. This likewise allures *Tench* and *Bream*.

Over

Over-night, mix Bean Flower with a little Honey, wet it with Rectified Spirits of Wine, and a little Oyl of Turpentine, make it up into little Pellets, and such Fish as Nibble it, when thrown in, will be stupefied, so that in the Morning, coming to themselves a little, they will Bite very eagerly, as being after their drunken fit exceeding hungry. This likewise is a sure detainer of them all night in Summer, so that they will not wander from the place. *Nux Vomica* scraped into Paste, makes them Drunk, so that if the Water be shallow, you may go in and take them, when they rise and turn up their Bellies as if expiring, though in a little time they will come to themselves again, if the Water be deep you may use a Landing Net.

The Fat of Barnacles or Sea-Gulls is extreemly coveted by Fish, if mixed with the Juice of Eringoes, or Sea Holly. The Craw of a Turtle Dove well scowred, is taken very eagerly by the Pike.

The Fat of a Water Rat, takes much if the Bait be rubbed with it, as that of a Mole does the Pike.

Some particular Observations on Gudgeon Angling.

THE Gudgeon though not over large, is approved among other Fish as a Dainty, being very wholesom Food. This Fish Spawns twice or thrice in the year, he delights in sharp streams, with Gravelly or Sandy bottoms, and shews the young Angler extraordinary good sport, who not being well

well skilled in chusing, or not well knowing how to come by other Baits, may take him with a small Red-worm on the ground, or very near it, and rarely by reason of the toughness of his Mouth, is he lost when struck. In the heat of Summer they make to the Shallows in Rivers, but when the Weeds in *Autumn*, grow of a bad taste, or rot, and Cold Weather comes on, then they get together in Deep places; and here it is properest to Fish for them at the ground, or a little above it, if you Fish with a Cork or Float; but it may be done with a running Line on the ground, without a Float: As for particular Baits, I have already discoursed of them, and among others those relating to the *Gudgeon*.

A special Winter Bait to get, and
preserve.

When Plowing begins in
Autumn, before any
frosts come that are forcible,
to make entrance into the
Earth; observe where the
ploughs are going, if there be
store of Crows lighted on the
Ground, especially in that
which is Heathy, Sandy, or
Greenseard, follow, and you
will find a White Worm, big-
ger than a Gentle, having a
red Head, which is held to be
bred of the Spawn or Egg of a
beetle, left in those holes the
lugs in the Ground under Horse
or Cow-dung, which in *March*
or *April*, turns to a Beetle
again: You may put about two
Quarts of these, into half a
Bushel of the same Mould,
when you gather them, put
G them

them in a Tub or other Vessel, where the Frost or Wind may not come to kill them ; and by this means, when most other Baits are out, you may be provided all the Seasonable times in Winter, and early in Spring. They take in those Seasons, *Bream, Carp, Roach, Dace and Chub.*

Gentles may be kept in Winter, in Bran, Moss and Scowling Earth, lightly over some putrefaction, in which at the first laying them in the Ground, where the Frost cannot come at them, you perceive they begin to live.

Unseasonable times to Angle in.

HAVING spoke much of proper times to accommodate the Angler, I shall now speak somewhat more of unseason-

seasonable ones, that those who are ignorant in this Art, as to the Niceties of it, may not lose their labour.

The two extreams of Weather are not proper, viz.

(1.) When great droughts have parched the Earth, so that the Rivers carry but low Currents, when the Weather is Excessive hot, in the Heat of the day, unless Clouds cover all, and Winds gently breath.

(2.) In Frosty or Snowy Weather, or unhealthy Weather, for two reasons, viz. because you will little damage the Fish, but greatly injure your self.

In the Morning, either in the Spring or advancing of the season, if a Hoar Frost happen, the Fish will be backward in their biting that day, and little sport can be expected, for they will not freely rise, except in

the Evening, and soon after they have spawned they will not bite to the purpose, till with Grass and Weeds they have well purged and scowered themselves so that they may by that means recover their Strength and Appetite.

It is not proper to Fish when the North or East Winds be very sharp.

In Brooks that are small and clear, where the Water is kept up by Mills or Dams, it is not good Angling, for there especially the *Trout* keeps her hole, and others bite faintly.

Some other usefull Observations and directions.

I. IF you are doubtful what Bait will be taken, look in the first Fishes Stomach, and such Flies, Worms, &c. as you find

find there, that kind at that time delights in.

Be sure always to keep your shadow off the Water, and therefore let the Sun be in your Face, or on one side of you when you Angle, keeping out of sight, and making no noise; and when you are bent for *Trout*, you need make but three or four Essays with the ground Bait or Fly, for if it comes not then to Bite or offer, either there is not any there, or they keep close in their holes.

If you Fish for *Carp*, cut no Weeds in the River, nor on the sides, to make you a convenient standing, for then they will perceive they are laid wait for, and forsake that haunt, not returning in a considerable time.

*A curious Paste with Oyls to
take Fish.*

TAKE the flower of Lupins,
three ounces, the Fat of a
Rabbits Kidney an ounce, the
Juice of Horse Radish a quarter
of an ounce, Oyl of Turpentine
three drams, mix these toge-
ther with stiff hand, and make
them up into a Paste, with a
little Rabbits Wool felted in
with it to strengthen it on the
Hook, and it will take to ad-
miration *Trout, Tench, Chub* and
Roach, and is an excellent ground
bait for most sort of River or
Pond Fish, and proportionable
to direction, mix a greater
quantity, adding a little Honey.

And thus have I given you
in a small Book, the whole Art
of Angling, for by way of di-
rection, there needs no more ;

all

all that remains now, is to put it in practice, without which, whatever can be said on the Subject, signifies little

To take the Smelt with an Angle.

THIS Fish Generally lies at the Tails of Ships, or in Brooks, you Fish for him at half Water, with a Gentle, and the first *Smelt* that you Catch, cut him into small pieces, about the bigness of a Gentle, and Bait your Hook with them, and you will find sport to admiration.

To feed Fish in Ponds.

CAST in the Bowels and Entrails of great Fish, Crackt Wall-nuts, fresh Cheese, Lumps of White-bread, Fruits Chopt small, all sorts of Salt Fish, and such

such other like Victuals, sometimes fresh Leaves of Parsley, Chipers of Bread or other Crusts, Clotted Blood of Beasts, or the young Brood of Wasps cast in the Pond.

A Fresh *Carp* Salted six hours, and then Fry'd in Oyl, and besprinkled with Vinegar, in which Spices have Boyl'd, is the wholesomest Fish that is: But besure Drink a Glass of Claret after it, but let Sick Persons abstain from both.

Salmon and *Trout* well Soddin in Water and Vinegar, and eat with Sower Sauce, may be eaten of Hot Livers and burning Agues, but not too often.

Barbels broil'd on a Gridiron, or Roasted, in Vinegar, are very wholesome, if any Man drink the Wine in which one hath been Strangled to Death, he shall ever after dispise all manner of Wine.

River Sturgeon Sodden in Water and Vinegar, and eaten with Fennel doth Cool the Blood.

River Lampreys choak'd with Nutmegs and Cloves, and fry'd with Bread and Oyl and Spices, is a good dish.

Female Tenches baked with Garlick, or boil'd with Onions, Oyl and Raisins may be eaten of Youth and Cholerick men.

Pikes boil'd with Water, Oyl and sweet Herbs, will firmly Nourish.

Eels Roasted with Oyl and Coriander seeds partly beats flegm in the Stomach.

Soles fri'd with Butter, and eaten with Sauce made of Wine, the Juice of Orange, and Grated Bread, is a dainty Dish, easy of digestion, and the best of Fish.

F I N I S.

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best *Fishing Tackle* By *J. Brown*.

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